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INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

May 19, 1945

No. 111

LIVESTOCK PAYMENTS UPPED. . . . Following conferences attended by representatives of WFA, OPA, OES, the Army, and Defense Supplies Corporation, War Mobilization Director Vinson has announced a program designed to encourage a maximum slaughter of cattle and hogs and to improve meat distribution. Under the program a feeder payment of 50 cents a hundredweight on cattle of AA and A grades is effective immediately. Effective June 4, subsidy payments on all grades of cattle will be increased 25 cents per hundredweight and applies to both processing and nonprocessing slaughterers. On June 4, nonprocessing slaughterers will be granted an additional subsidy of 40 cents per hundredweight. The pork subsidy is increased from \$1.30 to \$1.70 and is retroactive to April 1. To make it possible to keep livestock in the hands of those operators who comply with OPA price ceilings, and to eliminate black market operations, the OPA and WFA will develop a plan by June 15 to show the movement of all livestock through public stockyards and public sales yards, so that information as to the destination of all such livestock will be available.

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . May 9, the President signed a bill to continue the Selective Training and Service Act. May 11, the Senate passed a bill providing for loans and farm-machinery priorities for farmers in the flood areas. May 14, the House passed bills authorizing additional appropriations for extension work and providing for price supports on the production of guayule rubber; the Senate passed a bill authorizing a post-war rural electrification program and making REA an independent agency. May 15, the House Flood Control Committee reported the flood relief bill which had been passed by the Senate on May 11; the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee submitted a report on its food investigation. May 17, the Senate passed the Downey pay bill for federal employees (not yet acted upon in the House).

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"PRISONER OF WAR FARM LABOR" is the subject of FIS Fact Sheet No. 102 scheduled for release in a few days. It explains the policy of the War Department in regard to the disposition of war prisoners as expressed recently by Brigadier General B. M. Bryan, Assistant to the Provost Marshal General in charge of prisoner of war camps. Prisoner of war workmen, he says, will be retained in this country as late in the season as necessary for farm and other necessary work. "We'll get them all out of here just the minute any labor becomes surplus," General Bryan emphasizes. Distribution of this fact sheet will be made principally through Extension Service, OMS, Office of Labor, and FCA. Single copies may be obtained from the Office of Information.

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"VICTORY HARVEST" PRINTS STILL AVAILABLE. . . . So far 23 states have ordered a total of 264 prints of the "Victory Harvest" movie. All states were sent at least one copy but those wanting additional prints should order now while they are still available.

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NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK PROCLAIMED BY PRESIDENT. . . . In his recent proclamation setting aside the week beginning July 22 as National Farm-Safety Week, President Truman pointed out that among other reasons, the inevitable decrease in available farm labor this year creates an especially urgent need for conserving farm manpower to meet 1945 production goals. ". . . . I request all persons and organizations concerned with agriculture and farm life to do everything in their power to educate farm people in the proper precautions by which they may eliminate farm hazards, and to stimulate a nationwide determination to stop the needless waste of irreplaceable farm manpower and property. And I further urge that farm people everywhere observe National Farm-Safety Week by making a safety check in their homes and on their farms." A farm safety poster is in preparation for use in connection with Farm Safety Week.

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POTATOES AND WFO 120. . . Shipping restrictions on Irish potatoes produced in designated counties of Oregon, Idaho, and Michigan have been removed, effective May 15. Aroostook County, Maine, and Kern County, California, are the only areas still under the restrictions of WFO 120. This order requires that shippers first offer potatoes to Government agencies and obtain WFA permits before shipping potatoes from a designated area. The purpose of the order is to provide for the procurement of Irish potatoes for the armed forces and for processing. Because of the critical need for potato starch about 200,000 barrels of U. S. No. 2 or U. S. No. 1 Size B potatoes from the 1944 crop (limited to potatoes under CCC loan and going out of condition), will go into the manufacture of starch to be used for urgently needed balloon material, parachute cloth, and adhesive for bandages.

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WFA'S PROGRAM TO INCREASE LEGUME SEED PRODUCTION is announced in a press release for issue May 21. The program, which will be administered by Triple-A State and county offices, consists of: special acreage payments as an inducement to harvest legume seed; payments of 2½ cents per pounds for alfalfa and alsike clover seed, and 3½ cents per pound for red clover seed, harvested and sold into commercial channels before December 31, 1945.

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The WLA WORKS FOR VICTORY. . . . This is also the title of a new publication (AWI-113) designed to increase membership in the Women's Land Army. It is being distributed to agencies and individuals who have a part in the recruitment, training, and placement of farm workers, including the voluntary agencies who assist with the current farm labor program. Copies are available upon request to the Office of Information.

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THE CONSUMER TIME program on May 26 is designed to help veterans answer the question, "Shall I be a farmer?" The how and why of farming, the post-war farm, what's new in farming, and other angles of the subject will be covered. The June 2 show will be the latest story on cotton fabrics--why the shortage, when more will be on the market, etc.

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A TWO-PAGE FACT SHEET ON THE NEW FARM SLAUGHTER REGULATIONS has been prepared by the Office of Price Administration and will accompany the forthcoming over-all statement on the meat situation mentioned in last week's Calendar.

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U.S.D.A. RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . . New movie tells of need for farm workers--868; Idle land problem in southeast--869; Textile bag requirements up 20 percent--873; Prisoner of war labor available for agriculture--877; Work to start immediately on big REA program--879; Corn program nets 21 million bushels--912; WFA announces support-price schedule for late potatoes--913; WFA revises early and intermediate potato price support provisions--914.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . Price Administrator issues statement on reconversion pricing program--OPA-5566; Increase in ceiling prices for California white potatoes--OPA-T-3227; Gasoline and fuel oil--OWI-4390; Buyers of "Club" livestock may apply to local board for permission to have animals custom slaughtered--OPA-5567; Delegation of authority to establish ceiling prices for sales of straw--OPA-T-3228; Egg price regulation amended to aid procurement agencies in obtaining eggs and egg products--OPA-5571; Poultry truckers' mark-ups increased--OPA-5568; Poultry regulation amended--OPA-T-3245; Relationship between supplies of rationed foods and their point values explained--OPA-5576; Country shipper ceilings announced for 1945 crop of late white potatoes--OPA-5579.

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"CURING PORK, COUNTRY STYLE," is the title of a movie scheduled for release the last of May through the Department's film depositories. It shows the technique of curing and smoking pork on the farm with emphasis on the proper temperature, the right amount of salt, and the correct time for curing. Color pictures of the finished product in the smokehouse and on the table conclude the movie, a 16 mm., 2-reel film. Copies of the bulletin of the same title, AWI-108 will be distributed wherever the picture is shown.

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MORE AG PUBLICATIONS AGREE TO CARRY ECONOMIC STABILIZATION ADS. . . . Since reporting two weeks ago that 94 farm papers and journals had agreed to use a series of ads on the farm economic stabilization program, 10 more have sent in their orders. The total circulation of the papers that will carry these ads is now near the 15 million mark.

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WFA TO SUBSTITUTE DRIED FOR FRESH EGGS IN U. K. SHIPMENTS. . . . An allocation of one million cases of shell eggs to the United Kingdom has been cancelled and replaced by an allocation of an equivalent amount of dried eggs--approximately 10 million pounds (USDA-903).

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ON THE COUNTRY JOURNAL SHOW May 26 (9:30 a.m., EWT), Chas. E. Kellogg of BPI will talk about national soil surveys, and Roy Magruder of OS, about seed production for lend-lease.

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WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATOR JONES will be a guest speaker on the May 24 Town Meeting program (Blue Newtork, 8:30 p.m., EWT).

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ANOTHER TIMELY FARM TOPICS PLATTER is scheduled for cutting May 21. N. E. Dodd, Chief of Triple-A, will talk about problems of storing wheat and other small grains from this year's crop. He will suggest that farmers plan to store as much grain as possible on their farms because of the difficult transportation and storage situation. . . . On May 22 another TFT platter will be cut. On one side Don Anderson of OMS will tell about the importance of high quality milk; on the other the Moore-DuMars team will discuss the battle against weeds in Victory gardens.

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THE MEAT PROBLEM. . . . OPA has sent to its regional and district offices a suggested statement entitled, "How Serious Is the Meat Problem?" It presents the facts about supply, demand and distribution, tells what the Government is doing to improve the supply and even out distribution, and makes an appeal for public support of OPA's intensified drive against the meat black market. Copies of the statement (Inf.-0840 5-45) are available from OPA offices.

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OPA RECONVERSION PRICING POLICIES will be the subject of Price Administrator Chester Bowles' regular weekly broadcast over the Blue Network on May 24, at 4:15 p.m., EWT. (This program is not broadcast in Washington on Thursdays but is re-broadcast over WMAL on Fridays at 2:30 p.m., EWT).

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